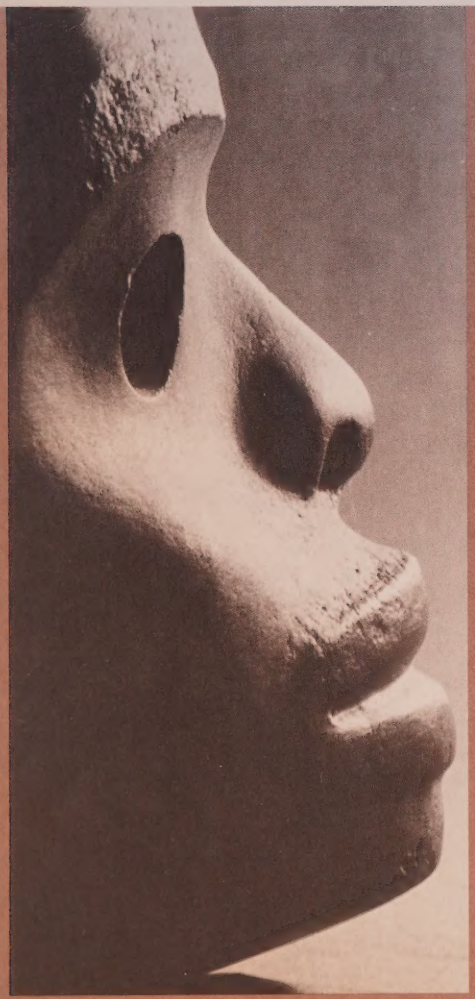
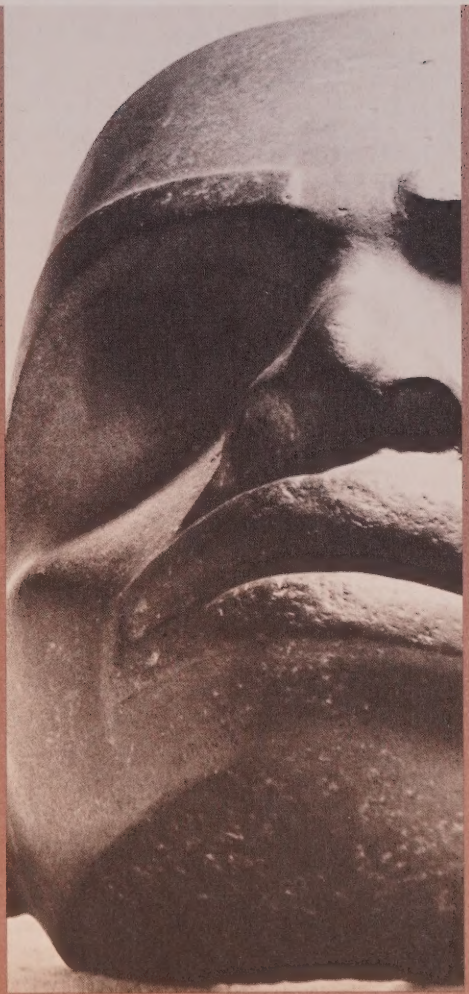
ROM June 1975





ROM June 1975

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G. D. DE S. Wotherspoon, D.S.O., C. St. J., Q.C.
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ROM cover: From the exhibition *Images: Stone B.C.* starting June 24 to August 24 in Exhibition Hall at the Royal Ontario Museum.

Chairman's Newsletter

Although you may not see any physical activity at the Museum relating to our expansion, I can assure you that since last summer we have moved into high gear in several areas. Probably the most significant is the appointment of the architects, Moffat, Moffat and Kinoshita, and Mathers and Haldenby, who have already begun preliminary work.

An important first step in the expansion programme is to determine what the Museum actually needs. All of us have our own ideas as to what is important, but naturally we cannot have everything. As mentioned in the Annual Report, the members of the Board and the Museum staff, with other interested individuals, have been involved in the preparation of a tactical study in order to identify the basic issues related to the objectives and future roles of the Museum. We now have a report for our consideration from our Project Consultant, Mr. D. H. Scott, entitled "Guidelines for Planning". During the past month, a committee of Board and staff members has been reviewing this report, and analysing the many comments and opinions received.

As the Museum is one of the province's most important cultural centres, the Board of Trustees decided several months ago that the Museum should make every effort to get the opinions of others who would be affected by an expansion of the ROM. We have had discussions with the City of Toronto Planning Committee, and ratepayers' groups in the immediate area.

This, however, is not enough. To get a wider input we have invited 1,500 organizations and individuals throughout the province to express any views they may wish to put forward with respect to the Museum's future role. At the same time, we have asked for public comment by placing advertisements in selected Ontario newspapers.

I must emphasize that no decision has been taken as to the form the expansion will take, or, for that matter, where. Our present location, in the heart of Toronto, is one of the most suitable sites imaginable, with excellent public transportation facilities. There are many advantages to keeping most of our operations in this central location.

The question of funding will naturally be very significant. The Honourable Robert Welch, Minister of Culture and Recreation, who is responsible for representing our needs to the provincial government, has assured me that the province will honour its commitment made in 1970 to provide $12 million toward capital improvement.

In case you did not see the advertisement asking for public comment, it solicited written suggestions, from both individuals and organizations, on any subject related to the Museum and how it may best serve the citizens of Ontario in the future. If you would like to make your views known, please send your suggestions to: The Royal Ontario Museum, P.O. Box 2200, Toronto. We will be working on the analysis of these comments during the summer, and early in the fall I hope to be able to give you a further progress report.

Meanwhile, our departments continue to be busy with activities outside the ROM. The second annual Mineralogy Symposium was held at Rochester the weekend of April 18 to 20. Dr J. A. Mandarino, Curator of the Department of Mineralogy, gave two talks, and Dr. R. I. Gait, Associate Curator, was in two panel discussions. This department was responsible for the photographic exhibit held the first week in May at the annual convention of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy at the Sheraton-Four Seasons Hotel in Toronto. The exhibit consisted of colour photo-micrographs of crystals taken by Mrs. V. Anderson, Research Associate.

In mid-May, Dr. Mandarino attended the annual meeting of the Mineralogical Association of Canada at the University of Waterloo. Dr. Mandarino has been president of the Association since January, 1973. The ROM's exhibit, "Quartz, Quartz, Quartz", was designed primarily to be educational and to tell the public something of the crystallography of quartz.

On your next visit to the Museum, look in at the Mineralogy Gallery, immediately to your left off the main rotunda as you enter the Museum. This gallery was completely rebuilt between 1963 and 1967, with the generous assistance of the International Nickel Company. The permanent exhibits are fascinating samples of the world's minerals. New acquisitions are displayed in a special case at the far end of the gallery. They are all well worth seeing.

G. D. Wotherspoon
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Spotlight

ROM Director Visits China

The Director, Walter Tovell, was one of a three-man Canadian delegation invited by the People's Republic of China to attend opening ceremonies on April 16 of an exhibition of Canadian paintings in Peking and Shanghai. The other members of the delegation were Mr. André Bachand, Vice-Chairman, Board of Trustees, National Museums of Canada, and Mr. C. M. Ruggles, Head, Restoration and Conservation Laboratory, National Gallery of Canada.

The exhibition, entitled "Canadian Landscapes in Painting", organized by the National Gallery of Canada on behalf of the Department of External Affairs, ran in the Peking Art Gallery from April 16 to April 30, and in the Shanghai Art Gallery from May 13 to May 27.

The exhibition was held under the auspices of The Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries.

The Canadian Landscape Exhibition was a view of Canada through the eyes of traditional Canadian landscape painters from the late 18th century until the middle of the 20th century. The canvases represented the unique characteristics of the Canadian landscape in seven geographic regions: the Atlantic coast, the St. Lawrence and Lower Great Lakes, the Precambrian Shield, the Prairies, the Rocky Mountains, the Pacific Coast, and the Arctic. The Group of Seven and other artists in these different regions reflected in their art various backgrounds. Forty-four painters were represented. All sixty-nine paintings in the exhibition were from the collection of the National Gallery of Canada.

Professor Eric Arthur with Mrs. Ignatieff, Assistant Curator, Canadiana, and Donald Webster, Curator, Canadiana.

The exhibition is part of the Secretary of State for External Affairs' programme for cultural exchanges with China, resulting from the Prime Minister's visit to the People's Republic of China in October, 1973. Other segments of the programme include professorial and student exchanges.

The Canadian delegation not only attended the opening and the exhibition in Peking, but were also given a tour of China, visiting Sian, Loyang, Chengchou and Shanghai. A delegation of officials from The People's Republic of China came to Canada as guests of the Canadian government to attend the opening of the exhibition of Archaeological Finds of the People's Republic of China, which was held at ROM from August 8 to November 16, 1974. The Chinese officials were given a tour of Canada. It was in return for these courtesies that the Canadian delegation visited China as guests of the government of the People's Republic of China.

Special Viewing Held at Canadiana Gallery

The museum arranged a special viewing for about fifty members of the Ontario Genealogical Society on Thursday, April 10. The viewing was in connection with the exhibition, "York and the Home District" at Canadiana, and coincided with the annual meeting in Toronto of the Ontario Genealogical Society May 16 - 19. Mrs. Helen Ignatieff, Assistant Curator, Canadiana, organized the exhibition, which will continue until June 15.

ROM World Civilization Tours

The Royal Ontario Museum is featuring three tours in 1976.

Central America: a fascinating exploration of Mayan archaeological sites and wild life in Yucatan, Guatemala and Belize in February.

Japan: an exotic trip encountering the richness and beauty of Japan in May/June.

Canada: a luxury cruise on the McKenzie River, stopping at various Indian and Eskimo settlements in mid-summer.

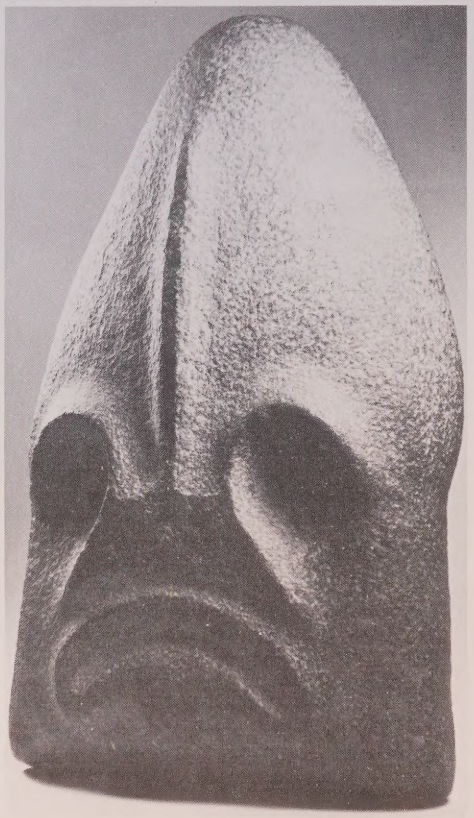
The Royal Ontario Museum
100 Queen's Park, Toronto M5S 2C6

June 1975

Images: Stone: B.C. Thirty Centuries of Northwest Coast Indian Sculpture
June 24 to August 24
"Images: Stone: B.C." combines two ideas: "British Columbia", an image of place, and "Before Christ", an image of time. Wood-carvings have made the art of the Northwest Coast Indians famous throughout the world, but not as well known are their early works in stone. Because of their imperishable nature, the stone sculptures document a much earlier phase of the Northwest coast art style. For this reason Richard Simmins, Director of the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, and Wilson Duff, professional advisor for the exhibition, organized "Images: Stone: B.C." which was recently held at the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria.

Perhaps the most sensational sculptures in the exhibition are the twin masks. One, "The Unsighted Twin", was collected at the Tsimshian village of Kitkatla in 1879 by Indian Commissioner I. W. Powell and occupies a permanent place of honour in the National Museum in Ottawa. The other, "The Sighted Twin", was collected either on the Nass River or Metlakatla, and is in the possession of the Musée de l'Homme in Paris. It has been recognized for some years that the two are alike, and that they seem to be the only two stone masks from the Northwest Coast. In fact, they are the two halves of a single work of art. It was discovered that the two masks nest snugly together, with the slightly more delicate face of the "sighted" twin from Paris fitting tightly inside the "unsighted" one from Ottawa.

Artifacts in the collection range from bowls and spoons to daggers, rattles and houseposts. Because the exhibition is in stone, implements used for cutting and grinding are prominently featured, including jade blades, hand hammers, sledge hammers, pile drivers, clubs and mortars.



Pile Driver: Dogfish Head.

There are 136 pieces in the collection, each a singularly striking example of stone sculpture executed by the native Indian people before the Northwest coast was settled. The sculptures range in size from a 1½-inch charm to a massive carved mortar which could only be carried by a strong man.

The Exhibition is funded by the National Museums Corporation and the Canada Council, Ottawa. It wil be held at the ROM in Exhibition Hall.

A catalogue of the exhibition has been prepared by Wilson Duff and will be available at the Museum bookstore.

Nest Parasitism in Birds June 10 - August 10
Social parasitism in birds involves the laying of eggs by the female of one species in the nests of another species. The host species then incubates the eggs and raises the young of the parasitic species. There are five families of birds, found throughout the world, that practice this kind of parenthood. The parasitic birds must find suitable host species, locate the nest, synchronize their egg laying with that of the hosts, overcome the host's reaction to alien eggs or young in their nests. Later, the young parasites must be able to successfully compete for food with the young of the host species. Each family shows different but remarkable ways of adapting to the common problems of successful reproduction through parasitism. Third Floor Rotunda.

New Zealand: A Nation's History in Stamps
June 7 - July 6
Something of New Zealand's history and geography is reflected in its postage stamps which are used to tell the country's story. This exhibition seeks to tell through stamps the unique past and present of New Zealand, its historical progress and its modern technological society. It was organized by the New Zealand government's Postal Service, and was circulated by the Smithsonian Institution. The exhibition includes a 20-minute color film which provides a lively record of the country's development. Lower Rotunda.

Down to the Sea June 19 - September 14
The exhibition shows in oils, watercolours and prints a selection of ships and boats which plied the waters in and around Canada. It includes vessels of the Royal Navy, the China Trade, barquentines, brigateens, and the boats whose function was fishing, pursuing the Fur Trade, exploring, running the rapids and racing. Canadiana Gallery.

York and the Home District to June 15
This exhibition shows scenes of pioneer life in York settlement up to the time it became Toronto. Watercolour and oil portraits depict the influential people who settled York in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The exhibition, mounted from ROM's collection as well as material on loan, features maps and charts, some of which include townsite lots and the names of occupants. A surveyor's plan shows roads, paths, churches, meeting houses, saw and grist mills. Some deeds and documents of early York are shown and other documentary material and books portraying the people, their manner of settlement and the growth of Upper Canada between 1780 and 1835. Sigmund Samuel Canadiana Gallery.

Furnishing Fabrics for the Ontario Home
to June 29
This exhibition shows furnishing fabrics fashionable in the 19th century and still suitable for the Ontario home. It is illustrated from material in the Museum's collection. Second Floor, Textile Gallery. Tours Mondays at 12:15 pm.

Stamps to June 15
Early days at the York and Toronto Post Offices. Stamp Corner, Lower Level.

Stamps June 17 - July 31
Embroidered Postcards of World War I. Stamp Corner, Lower Level.

Men, Myths and Monuments to June 15
Focuses on our knowledge of the astronomy of the Stonehenge people, the Babylonians, the Egyptians and the Mayans (one of the early peoples in Meso-America), and other ancient civilizations. Enters into speculation regarding the application of our knowledge of these civilizations. Theatre of the Stars, McLaughlin Planetarium. Show times listed below.

Theatre of the Stars Show Times
Tuesday to Friday: 3, 8 pm.
Saturday: 2, 3:30, 7:30, 9 pm.
Sunday: 2, 3:30, 5, 7:30 pm.
Shows last about 50 minutes. Theatre tickets are $1.50 for adults, $0.75 for senior citizens, students and children, which includes admission to the building displays and Museum. Children under the age of six are not admitted to the theatre.

ROM Services

ROM Public Hours, 100 Queen's Park
Tuesday to Saturday: 10 am to 9 pm.
Sunday: 1 to 9 pm.
Monday: 10 am to 5 pm.
Adult admission 50 cents, free after 5 p.m. Accompanied children free. Senior citizens and students with identification free.

ROM Libraries
The Reference Library, on the second floor, is open Monday to Friday, from 10 am to 5 pm. The Astronomical Library, in the McLaughlin Planetarium, is open Saturdays, 10 am to 5 pm.

ROM Restaurants
A comfortable restaurant serving hot lunches and snacks is located on the main floor by the Armour Court and is open until 7:30 pm. The Dinosaur Den, children's cafeteria on the Lower Level, closes at 4 pm.

ROM Shops
Summer Special: There will be a 20% reduction on all prints and some jewellery. Available also in the shop is the paperbound catalogue, "Images: Stone: B.C.", selling at $7.95.

Book and Gift Shop Hours
Tuesday to Thursday: 10 am to 6:30 pm.
Friday, Saturday, Monday: 10 am to 5 pm.
Sunday: 1 to 5 pm.

Sigmund Samuel Canadiana Building
14 Queen's Park Crescent West. Free admission.
Monday to Saturday: 10 am to 5 pm.
Sunday: 1 to 5 pm.

Information
Museum: 928-3690 **Planetarium:** 928-8550

Members' Lounge

A quiet licensed lounge, down the stairs by the main restaurant, is available to members of ROM. Monday: 12 - 5 pm; Tuesday to Friday: 12 - 9 pm. No service between 3:30 and 4:30 pm.

ROM Membership

Membership in the Museum is a rewarding experience. For $25 annually (individual) or $40 (family with 2 cards), a member receives free admission to ROM, use of the licensed Members' Lounge, a 10 percent discount on purchases over $2.00 at ROM's Shops, invitations to Preview parties; *ROM* the monthly bulletin and *Rotunda* the quarterly magazine. For residents outside Metropolitan Toronto, individual annual membership is $15. Lifetime Membership in the Museum is also invited as follows:

Life: $500
Fellow: $1,000
Benefactor: $2,500
Endowment: $5,000
Patron: $10,000

Lifetime membership categories are income tax deductible. For further information call 928-3704 or write to the Membership Office.

Members who would like to arrange to receive the Archaeological Newsletter can do so by writing to the office of the Chief Archaeologist or by phoning 928-3651.

Preview cover: Fragment of woodblock printed cotton from the bed curtains of Clarissa Pearson, 1830's, from the Playter family of Toronto. Gift of Mr. Donald McLeish.

Tours

ROM Gallery Tours

Weekdays, except holidays. Free with Museum admission. Tours subject to change.

June	at 12:15	at 2
2	Furnishing Fabrics for the Ontario Home	Impressions of the ROM: a Walking Tour
3	Ancient Greece	Planetarium
4	A New Look at Dinosaurs	Chinese Tomb Figurines
5	Faces of Ancient Rome	Planetarium
6	European Glass	Impressions of the ROM: a Walking Tour
9	Furnishing Fabrics for the Ontario Home	Impressions of the ROM: a Walking Tour
10	The Enigma of the Etruscans	Planetarium
11	Jewellery Through the Ages	Impressions of the ROM: a Walking Tour
12	Impressions of the ROM: a Walking Tour	Planetarium
13	Chinese Wall Paintings	Impressions of the ROM: a Walking Tour
16	Furnishing Fabrics for the Ontario Home	Impressions of the ROM: a Walking Tour
17	19th Century Rooms	Planetarium
18	Arts of Ancient Egypt	Chinese Arts
19	Impressions of the ROM: a Walking Tour	Planetarium
20	Lee Collection of Small Rooms	Impressions of the ROM: a Walking Tour
23	Furnishing Fabrics for the Ontario Home	Impressions of the ROM: a Walking Tour
24	French Furniture	Planetarium
25	English Period Rooms	Arts of India
26	Impressions of the ROM: a Walking Tour	Planetarium
27	Medieval Europe	Impressions of the ROM: a Walking Tour
30	Furnishing Fabrics for the Ontario Home	Impressions of the ROM: a Walking Tour

Canadiana Tours

Wednesdays at 12:15 pm in the Sigmund Samuel Canadiana Building.

Planetarium Tours

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 2 pm in the McLaughlin Planetarium.

Inside ROM

"Friends of the ROM": The Senior Citizens' Club at the ROM

The Senior Citizens' Club is a group of some 70-80 retired men and women of diverse backgrounds who meet once a week in the Museum.

The Club was inaugurated three years ago when several senior citizens approached the head of Extension Services, David Young, with a request for a special programme at the ROM. They felt that a club that centred its activities on the Museum's collections would be unique in this city, and would provide them with intellectual stimulation and the opportunity for discussion.

The name that has been adopted for the club is "Friends of the ROM" or FOROM. The club is intended for people who wish to study in an informal, relaxed, and enjoyable way, with opportunities to explore various avenues of interest on a voluntary basis.

Using films, demonstrations, slide lectures, gallery tours, and visits behind the scenes, Extension Services have sought to explore with FOROM the great variety of subjects and topics contained in the collections of the ROM.

In this connection Extension Services have provided club members with the opportunity to involve other people in Museum learning, taking objects, slides, or other materials to senior citizens' clubs, associations, and so on. Their involvement need not only be with other senior citizens, but with any segment of the community. To date, a number of club members have participated in these areas and have been well received.

Tom Quirk, junior technician, Far Eastern Department, showing a Japanese print from the special exhibition, "Images of Eighteenth-Century Japan", to members of FOROM.

At this point I would like to introduce Mr. Murray L. Sheppard, Chairman of the FOROM for 1974-75, who has written his own reflections on the club:

For many of us senior citizens, Thursday, 2:30 pm is ROM time. Known as "Friends of the ROM", we are now in our third year of meeting informally and without cost to us, to explore through slides, films, and talks the strange and wonderful things that have existed outside the boundaries of our times and lives. Because of the members' loyalty and enthusiasm, some of us feel we are ready to accept more members and extend the scope of the project.

We have done volunteer work at the Museum and are ambassadors-at-large, putting in a good word wherever possible.

In spite of the excitement and problems of the Chinese Exhibition, Mr. Harold R. Vanstone of ROM's Extension Services managed to find space so that we could start our session in October. Meetings usually took place at the Sigmund Samuel Canadiana Building, and a few times in the Planetarium Lecture Room. This change of location (we formerly met in Room 4 at the ROM) gave us time to appreciate our heritage and to find out why the four figures — Champlain, Wolfe, Simcoe, and Brock — were chosen by its founder, Sigmund Samuel, to grace the exterior of the Canadiana Building. A special thanks must be extended to the Gibson House volunteers who brought Canadian artifacts from their exhibits. They dressed in costumes, and even went to the trouble of wearing appropriate shoes or slippers!

January, 1975 saw us meeting again in Room 4 at the ROM. Here it was more convenient to watch films, slides, and handle artifacts that "brought the ages home" to us.
Our visits to the multitude of galleries, under expert guidance, have broadened our respect for the history of all mankind. Listening to our lecturers and guides, we are thankful that so many talented and enthusiastic specialists take time off from their work to share their knowledge with us. The volunteer tour guides also ably represent the well-deserved and world-wide reputation of the ROM.

Of course, it is all team work: technicians, curators, curatorial assistants, researchers, and so many others work very hard in limited space to show to the public a few treasures at a time. And we somehow feel that as visitors and students, we ourselves are somehow helping and encouraging the staff to keep up the good work.

One season we were given a particularly stimulating, behind-the-scenes account of how the Budongo Forest, in the Ugandan diorama, was being put together. Slides and visits once more brought to our attention the need for the time and resources that such an exhibit requires. Of course, there are changes going on all the time at the ROM, and this fact makes frequent solo visits very important. The display department deserves special praise for all the work it does. The two-level display of Florentine Baroque Bronzes in January and February merits special attention for the atmosphere it created.

The cafeteria also deserves special mention. It's a pleasant spot for a snack or a meal. The colour scheme, the staff, and the reasonably priced food make for a restful stopover.

I could go on and on, but, to conclude, as the elected Chairman of the "Friends of the ROM", I want to say thanks to the ROM again for generously sharing with us its vast resources and staff.

Murray L. Sheppard
Chairman, FOROM
March, 1975

For further information about the Club, which meets every Thursday afternoon from 2:30 pm to 4 pm from October through May (this year we hope to extend our activities until the end of June), write to:

Extension Services
Royal Ontario Museum
100 Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
M5S 2C6

We shall be happy to send you an application form.

H. R. Vanstone,
Extension Services,
Royal Ontario Museum

New Members of the Royal Ontario Museum

Life

Lois D. Milani

Annual

Dr. P. A. Adamson
Mrs. E. S. Anderson
Mr. P. Anderson
Dr. W. Anderson
Mrs. Wm. Armstrong
Mrs. J. S. Bazley
Mr. J. Bruce
Mr. S. W. Bullivant
Ms. P. Burgess
Mr. D. Coburn
Mr. & Mrs. D. Codrington
Ms. D. Dabolczi-Fekete
Miss S. Dayman
Miss M. Egan
Miss N. F. Embury
Mr. J. R. Greene
Mr. H. Greenwood
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Mr. W. R. Howard
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Mr. & Mrs. M. Margolius
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Mrs. S. McDonald
Mrs. C. McGrath
Mr. R. C. Morgan
Mrs. G. Nesbitt
M. Noble
Miss K. J. Ryans
Mr. & Mrs. N. L. Small
Mr. & Mrs. L. A. Warren
J. Whitty
Mr. A. C. Wilson

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